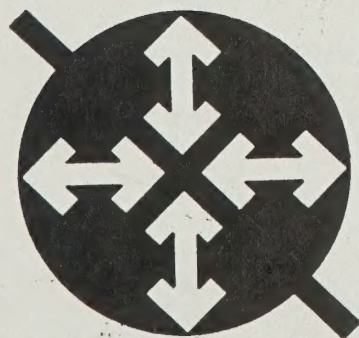


# Blissymbolics Communication Institute

## **1985 ANNUAL REPORT**



A Publication of  
Blissymbolics  
Communication  
Institute





BLISSYMBOLICS COMMUNICATION INSTITUTE  
1985 ANNUAL REPORT

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## Report of the Executive Director

A major new aspect of our program that we enthusiastically undertook in 1985, was our support to Ontario augmentative communicators in their home, school and community settings. In November, the opening of our Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Education (AACE) Resource Centre heralded the initiation of a service relating to all forms of augmentative communication. It declared in a very concrete way our desire to support augmentative communicators in the use of whatever systems best suit their needs, while at the same time maintaining our support of the development and application, where appropriate, of Blissymbols. The operational support given us by The Easter Seal Society, Ontario, combined with project funding from the Toronto Kiwanis Club, made possible the establishment of the AACE Resource Centre and service program. Appendix A includes a description of the services provided through AACE. Critical to our training and consultation capabilities is the Resource Centre's library of professional texts and journals and the collection of communication aids and informational audio-visual materials. Under the direction of Craig Fairley, we look forward to the completion in 1986 of the computerized data base containing all these items. We will then be able to undertake searches by topic area to over 1500 entries.

Another event that will have an effect upon our organization for many years occurred in 1985. On July 13, Charles K. Bliss passed away at age 87. His death marked the end of an era for Blissymbolics. Our tribute to the contribution his system has made to the lives of nonspeaking persons was printed in Communicating Together, Volume 3, Number 3, September 1985. It is reproduced in Appendix B of this report, along with the public statement made by the Semantography Trustees relating to the accomplishment of C.K. Bliss and recognizing our work in supporting the application of Blissymbolics. (Appendix C) This statement, along with our communication with members of the Semantography Trust has allowed us to feel very positive about the future association of the Semantography Trust, the BCI Australian Affiliate and BCI. We look forward to beginning to distribute Semantography Trust publications and to many years of mutual support.

Facing the future, reinforced by this co-operative relationship with the Semantography Trustees has given us a very positive perspective. Our commitment to support the application and further development of the system of Blissymbolics is stronger than ever. We are proud of the work of our System Co-ordinator and of the many ways in which our organization can support Blissymbol publications and software around the world. (See Report of the System Co-ordinator and listing of agreements, Report of the Administrative Co-ordinator). We are pleased to be





able to play a part in maintaining a standard system of Blissymbolics, to the benefit of Blissymbol users, whatever their native language.


At both our European Affiliate Meeting in Huizen, The Netherlands, April 9-12, 1985, and our North American Meeting in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, May 1-3, 1985, system considerations received high attention, along with much discussion related to training, publications, technology and the role of Blissymbolics within the broad field of augmentative communication. Both meetings were highly successful from an information sharing perspective and both provided BCI with an awareness of attitudes outside Ontario, which is critical to our effective planning. We are most appreciative of the extensive work and planning that was undertaken by our Huizen and Sioux Falls hosting centres, in making both meetings so stimulating and enjoyable.

In the area of publications, the completion of the Independent Study Program and Communicating with Blissymbolics, after their many years of development provided a great sense of accomplishment for all our staff. Work continued on the Bickell Introductory Lecture on Blissymbolics; arrangements were completed for the production of a Blissymbol component within the Doubleday Chime In Reading Program; Blissapple printing continued for the children's story translations of the Hamilton Wentworth Communication Collective.

Several new projects were initiated in 1985 and early 1986. Through a grant from the Ontario Ministry of Education Software Development Program, work on Blissbook began. In partnership with Penny Parnes, Director, Augmentative Communication Service, The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre, and working with a team composed of co-ordinator, two programmers, an educator and a speech pathologist/linguist, I have given direction to this lessonware for the Ontario educational computer, the ICON. Blissbook is designed to facilitate the transfer to traditional orthography for the Blissymbol user. (See Appendix D for a brief description of Blissbook's capabilities.) Funded as well through the Educational Software Development Program, was a project shared by Infonorth of Sudbury and BCI. This ICON software is entitled Picture Your Blissymbols and provides embellishments to facilitate the learning of an introductory Blissymbol vocabulary.

A project, involving much planning in 1985 and approved in February, 1986, holds promise for an exciting new capability for Blissymbol users. IDON Incorporated of Ottawa, has been funded through an Unsolicited Proposal Department of Supply and Service to produce a standard code that will allow the transmission of Blissymbol messages from one computer to another over telephone lines. Montreal professionals at the MacKay Centre and McGill University will be evaluating the software on Apple IIe's that have been donated by Apple Canada Inc. We will be evaluating the software in Toronto, on the MacIntosh computer, a second generous donation from Apple Canada Inc. In time, we hope to be able to





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apply the code to software for other computers, thus providing a communication link between Blissymbol users whatever their personal computer may be.

Another exciting undertaking initiated early in 1986 has been the application of Blissymbols to a display in the Canadian Pavilion at Expo 86 in Vancouver. Through the vision and planning of Jim Mackie, and the programming of Lynn Zucker, Apple Canada Ltd., Expo visitors will be able to send Blissymbol messages from one MacIntosh to another as part of the Canadian Communication Exhibit.

Balancing the many rewarding experiences we have had in 1985, have been the disappointments. We were unable to gain funding support that would allow concentrated attention to our descriptive protocol and data base for the many graphic communication systems currently being used. We have been able to allocate staff on a limited part-time basis, but progress is slow. This is all the more frustrating, as we witness the extensive misunderstanding and lack of knowledge relating to picture sets and graphic systems.

Having our organization function from two different locations has placed many additional demands on BCI staff. It is hoped that it will be possible in the near future to bring both the AACE program and BCI administration staff together in a long term location.

Other problems arose from the necessity to reduce our staff by two members by the end of 1985 in order to meet budget requirements. Not only was this difficult for the two individuals, but it also created additional responsibilities for an already over-extended staff. Highest priority was given to maintaining activities with direct implications for Ontario augmentative communicators. In this regard, extensive time was required in documenting need and in preparing a submission to the Ontario Ministry of Education for financial assistance. Discussion with the Ontario Ministry of Education has been ongoing.

The possibility of discontinuing Communicating Together created grave concern in 1985. Through the concerted effort of all our staff, Affiliates and readers we were able to reduce our production cost and increase the number of subscribers to a level that allowed us to continue.

Throughout all of our undertakings in 1985, the Board of Directors (Appendix E) has provided much needed guidance and help. Their confidence and understanding is greatly appreciated, both in helping our organization search for the most effective ways to implement our program and in gaining funding support. Their contribution is valued greatly by all our staff. We were greatly saddened at the death of a long-term Board member, David





Woods in November, 1985. Our tribute, prepared for sharing in Communicating Together was heart-felt. (See Appendix F.) He is missed by us all.

Others have helped us greatly in the past year. As we entered into the AACE program, I was frequently reassured by the consultation and encouragement of the senior officers of The Easter Seal Society. Ian Bain, Joe Cashen, Ken Monk, all gave generously of their time and knowledge to help us develop our new program.

Throughout the year, we have been continuously reinforced by the support of members of the Kiwanis Club of Toronto. Both through their funding assistance and their provision of consultation, we are much in their debt. In a similar way, we owe much to the Pilot Clubs of Ontario, who have sponsored three sections of Communicating Together and who also have given time to helping develop Resource Centre materials. Both Kiwanis and Pilot, have as well given us very able Board members.

I continue to value highly the contribution made by Jinny Storr, Blissymbol consultant, to the many aspects of our work. Many others have helped through program consultation and participation in our training program: Ruth Harrington, Kari Harrington, John Dowling, Gwen Mann, Katy Mann, Nancy Lageer, Mary Lou Meiers, Lynnette Norris, Glen McFadden, Dr. William Yovetich, Cathy Fairley, Barbara Rush, Joan MacFadden, Jane Green. We are grateful for the ongoing support given by our regular volunteers, Mary McMahon and Herb Colbran. Their help through the years has been invaluable. The keen involvement of our part-time computer consultant, Liam Egan, is another source of great assistance to us.

Throughout 1985, we have maintained a supportive relationship in many ways with the Augmentative Communication Service of The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre. Through sharing the direction of Blissbook, reciprocal arrangements re training, production of "Sharing Ideas with Nora" column in Communicating Together, distribution of ACS publications and information sharing, we have helped each other work toward effective augmentative communication in Ontario.

We have benefitted strongly from the direction given by Dr. Peter Lindsay and Dr. Robert Cambria from the Department of Special Education, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education to our survey of nonspeaking students in Ontario Schools. Results from this study will be available in May, 1986 and will provide information to guide the implementation of AACE support programs in Ontario. Our association with the Department of Special Education, Purdue University, has also provided valuable support to BCI. We appreciate the participation of Dr. George Karlan in the development of our graphic system descriptive protocol and the planning of future projects with Dr. Lyle Lloyd. The descriptive protocol has been enriched through our association





with Geb Verberg, The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre and Dr. William Yovetich, University of Western Ontario. We are most appreciative of the contribution these professionals make to our program.

I have been gratified as well by the contribution BCI has made to other organizations through the professional involvement of our senior staff. In addition to their membership in the many organizations listed in the report of our program co-ordinator, staff members have undertaken leadership and consultant responsibilities in the following ways: Our Program Co-ordinator has served as Chair, Canadian Committee, International Project on Communication Aids for the Speech Impaired (IPCAS); our Administrative Co-ordinator has served on the Advisory and Selection Committees of the Ontario March of Dimes, Microcomputer Applications Training Program and as Chair, Administration Committee, International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC). I have had the privilege and challenge of serving as President of ISAAC since its founding in May, 1983; being a member of the Advisory Committee to the Ontario March of Dimes, Microcomputer Applications Training Program; participating on the Ontario Ministry of Health, Task Force 3 relating to the implementation of the Assistive Devices Program for communication aids; and serving on The Advisory Committee for the American Speech Language and Hearing Association project entitled, "Implementation Strategies for Improving the Use of Communication Aids", being sponsored by the US Department of Education.

Each member of our Co-ordinating Group and support staff has made a strong contribution to BCI. We are fortunate indeed to have their involvement in working toward BCI's objectives.

At the time of writing this report, we are preparing to move from The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre, to bring all BCI's activities together at Roywood School. Our work in Blissymbols began in October 1971 in the Centre's basement laundry room. As we made our contribution to the lives of nonspeaking persons, our life within this building has been an exciting and eventful one. As we move toward new challenges, we thank the many people at The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre who that have helped us in our work over the years. As we nurture new activities and continue those we have developed in the past, we look forward to ongoing mutual support with all those working to improve the lives of augmentative communicators.

Shirley McNaughton  
Executive Director  
March, 1986





## Report of the Program Co-ordinator

### AACE/BCI TRAINING

AACE Training Seminars have been designed to meet the identified needs of teachers, health care personnel, residential counsellors, families and community workers. Some of their needs were directly related to government legislation and service delivery programs e.g. the Ontario Education Act and the Assistive Devices Program of the Ontario Ministry of Health. Other needs reflected each applicant's quest for knowledge in the rapidly growing field of augmentative communication. We continued the role of the Blissymbolics Communication Institute in providing training on the system of Blissymbolics and its application for nonspeaking persons through the new Independent Study Program and Practicum, and three-day Elementary Workshops.

### SINGLE DAY SEMINARS

March 1985 at The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre:

- \* Total Augmentative Communication in Education: Pictures, Blissymbols, Signing, Words
- \* A Practicum to the BCI Independent Study Program
- \* Supporting augmentative communication for the integrated student

July 1985 at The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre:

- \* Blissymbols for the Mentally Retarded
- \* Blissymbols and Technology
- \* Blissymbols and Reading

November 1985 at the AACE (Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Education) Resource Centre:

- \* Self Image and the Nonspeaking Student
- \* Blissymbols and Reading
- \* A practicum to the BCI Independent Study Program





March 1986 at AACE Resource Centre:

- \* A Total Communication Program
- \* A Practicum to the BCI Independent Study Program
- \* Integration of the Nonspeaking Student

#### OTHER TRAINING FORMATS

- \* Independent Study Program - The Independent Study Program was completed and became available in November, 1985. 126 were distributed in 1985.
- \* Format for Preservice Training - The Bickell lecture was brought to production stage by January, 1986. Promotional information was disseminated at the ASHA Leadership Training Conference in Orlando, Florida, January, 1986.

#### BCI INTERNSHIP/FELLOWSHIP

In November 1985, the Institute welcomed Dr. Sophia Kalman, BCI Affiliate from Hungary. Dr. Kalman pursued five weeks of advanced study in Blissymbolics through consultation with BCI staff, attendance at seminars, and visits to university, classroom, residential and community settings in which the system of Blissymbolics was being taught and used.

In January 1986, Makoto Yamamoto, Special Education student, made a two week study-visit to the Blissymbolics Communication Institute as part of his preparation for teaching students in Japan next year.

#### INFORMATION DISSEMINATION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Institute's objective to educate, inform and influence those who are in a position to make positive life changes for nonspeaking people has been pursued through staff attendance and participation in conferences; authorship of journal articles; presentations to community and service agencies on the topics of Blissymbolics and augmentative communication; involvement of nonspeaking persons in Institute projects. The diversity of the BCI staff's activities is demonstrated through their involvement in the following areas:

##### I COMMUNITY AND ADVOCACY:

- membership and participation in the Communication Action and Awareness Group;
- attendance at the Parents as Partners Conference, held by the Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy;
- attendance at the Sharing the Caring Conference, held by The Easter Seal Society, Ontario;
- participation in the Inter-Agency Action Committee, as follow-up to the Sharing the Caring Conference;



- attendance at meetings held by Advocacy Resource Centre for the Handicapped (ARCH);
- donation of surplus educational materials to the Canadian Organization for Development through Education (CODE) for distribution to under developed countries;
- presentations at Service Club meetings in the Toronto area.

## II PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Membership of senior staff in:

- Council for Exceptional Children;
- Association of Treatment Centres in Ontario;
- Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps;
- Ontario Speech and Hearing Association;
- Canadian Association of Speech and Language Pathologists;
- International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication;
- Canadian Periodical Publishers Association;
- The Canadian Centre for Philanthropy.

## III CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Canadian Association for Mental Retardation

- Picture Your Blissymbols

Canadian Speech and Hearing Association

- Picture Your Blissymbols

Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps

- Examining Graphic Communication Systems

- Picture Your Blissymbols

Council for Exceptional Children

- Blissymbol Software

ISAAC Retreat (Canada)

- Balanced Intervention

ISAAC Retreat (U.S.A.)

- Reading and Nonspeaking Students

## IV PUBLICATIONS

Canadian Journal of Mental Retardation

- Picture Your Blissymbols

Just Cause

- Blissymbol Users in the Courtroom

## PROFESSIONAL LIAISON AND EXCHANGE

During the past year the BCI/AACE program has provided training on a broad range of topics. The need for additional consultant expertise has resulted in a rewarding exchange of experiences and knowledge. The staff appreciates the continued liaison with staff of the Augmentative Communication Service and the Hugh MacMillan Centre School of The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre; Bloorview Children's Hospital; York County Board of Education; Hamilton Board of Education; Blissymbolics Communication Institute Affiliates and their new association with Mary Lou





Meiers of the Bob Rumball Centre for the Deaf. The invaluable assistance of augmentative communicators and their families is always appreciated.

#### VOLUNTEERS

The voluntary assistance of Mary McMahon in maintaining the AACE library is greatly valued. Members of the Pilot Club have been most helpful in providing and constructing special materials for the Resource Room.

The initial development and implementation of a resource facility involves extensive practical work which is both laborious and time consuming. For all the many tasks which AACE required, we thank Bob McNaughton for his patience, good humour and efficiency.

#### CONSUMER ISSUES

The BCI/AACE staff have chosen to provide work placements within our organization for several persons with physical disabilities and speech impairments. Opportunities have also been provided for young adults to share unique skills as augmentative communicators with concerned professionals, community workers or families. It is hoped that the staff commitment to this program will both continue and grow.

In 1985 three Blissymbol users gave testimony in a court of law with interpreter service provided by Blissymbolics Communication Institute staff. During the hearing, two responsibilities were recognized by the interpreter: the nonspeaking persons were assisted to communicate at their highest competency level, and the court received information by which the judge and lawyers could recognize and understand the Blissymbol users and their communication system. The nonspeaking persons were successful in their action and the defendant was found guilty. The court experience raised many issues regarding interpretation for Blissymbol users. Many of these issues were later discussed in an article "Blissymbol Users in the Courtroom" published in Just Cause.

#### BCI PUBLICATIONS AND MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

The Institute's work related to the Hamilton Wentworth Book Translation Project is nearing completion. Blissymbol "paste-ons" have been translated for ten popular children's books and production of the "paste-ons" is planned for 1986.

Brenda Von Vegesack, in cooperation with Loretta Biasutti, is continuing her translation of the reading series Chime In by Jean Malloch. (Doubleday Publications). Each project section is being monitored by the Symbol Office Staff to maintain symbol standards.





BCI is most appreciative of the work of Kari Harrington on the Blissymbol copy for both projects.

#### PICTURE YOUR BLISSYMBOLS

Evaluation of the Blissymbolics Communication Institute product Picture Your Blissymbols was received from instructors in ten locations where complimentary copies of the material had been placed. The instructors evaluated Picture Your Blissymbols with regard to the material product, the vocabulary and the teaching approach suggested. Replies were positive. All respondents noted their intention to continue using "pictured" Blissymbols for introductory programs and for students with special learning needs.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Warrick  
Program Co-ordinator



## Report of Marketing Manager

### SALES AND DISTRIBUTION

In 1985, products continued to be marketed and distributed in Canada directly by BCI. Distribution agreements remained in effect with two distributors in the United States: Don Johnston Developmental Equipment of Lake Zurich, Illinois, and EBSCO Curriculum Materials of Birmingham, Alabama. Materials were distributed as well through Ruth Walls Books, Sydney, Australia and for the Blissymbolics Communication Resource Centre (BCRC) by Living and Learning in the United Kingdom. As of January, 1986 both Ruth Walls Books and the Blissymbolics Communication Resource Centre were forced to discontinue serving as BCI distributors. Costs of shipping and, in the Australian case, the low value of the Australian dollar with regard to the American dollar, made the expenses involved prohibitive.

Income from sales of BCI Products in 1985 exceeded the amount projected in the annual budget by \$7,500. This was due in part to income from the new products which were completed in the fall of the year. Although income from product sales was higher than projected, so also were product expenses. Increased production costs due to rising paper and printing prices led to a net gain lower than projected.

### PROMOTION

The major promotional emphases in 1985 were the development of flyers on our new materials, and advertising in relevant publications. Flyers were used as handouts at conferences, in appropriate mailings and with product shipments.

Advertisements were placed in selected publications for specific products: An ad for Picture Your Blissymbols appeared in the TASH Newsletter, prior to a Picture Your Blissymbols presentation at the TASH convention by Shirley McNaughton and Anne Warrick; the new text Communicating with Blissymbolics was advertised in Communication Outlook.

Press Releases were prepared on the Independent Study Program and Communicating with Blissymbolics. They were sent to various magazines, newsletters and journals for inclusion in their announcements of new publications.





## CONFERENCES

Because of a limited promotional budget in 1985, representation at Conferences was restricted primarily to those close to Toronto. It was felt that displays were important for a continuing information dissemination relating to Blissymbolics and BCI training, materials and publications. BCI had display booths at the following conferences in the past year:

American Association on Mental Deficiencies (Ontario section), Toronto, March 27-29

Communication Fair, Harbourfront, Toronto, April 13

Canadian Speech and Hearing Association (CASHA), L'Hotel, Toronto, May 9-11

Ontario Speech and Hearing Association (OSHA), OISE, Toronto, October 24-26

Ontario Federation for the Cerebral Palsied, Niagara Falls, Ontario, October 26

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Constellation Hotel, Toronto, October 31-November 1.

I also attended the two BCI Affiliate meetings, first the European Affiliate Meeting in the Netherlands April 8-13, followed by the North American Affiliate Meeting in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, May 1-4. At both meetings the new products were introduced in prototype form to those present. It was very helpful to have the reactions and suggestions of those present. The North American Affiliates requested that they be informed of people in their areas who were undertaking the Independent Study Program, so these names could be added to local mailing lists. A procedure for doing this is now in place.

## NEW PRODUCTS

Three new products were completed in 1985:

1) Communicating with Blissymbolics. This new textbook, edited by Shirley McNaughton was initiated as a revised version of the original Handbook of Blissymbolics. As its development progressed, it became apparent that much new information needed to be included. For this reason, and because of delays caused by staff changes, production has taken much longer than originally estimated. The book was finally received from the printer in September, and the reaction to it has been very positive. It is a 256 page book, soft cover 6" x 9". The Blissymbols presented throughout were typeset on the font developed by The Beacon Herald, of Stratford, Ontario. This was the first application of the Blissymbol typesetting font, and it has resulted in a much higher quality and more attractive book. The funding for the





development of Communicating with Blissymbolics and for the typesetting font came through much appreciated grants from the Kiwanis Club of Toronto. Communicating with Blissymbolics is a required textbook for the Independent Study Program.

2) Independent Study Program. Parallel to the preparation of the textbook Communicating with Blissymbolics, was the development of the Independent Study Program. This too has been a long term project made possible through funding from the Kiwanis Club of Toronto.

The Independent Study Program is directed towards those who have expressed interest in acquiring training in Blissymbolics, but who are unable because of time or money to attend a traditional three-day training workshop. The Independent Study Program, packaged in a convenient carrying box, has several components. The primary one is the Independent Study Guide, a 150 page, coil bound, exercise workbook, which leads the participant through the course material. Other materials included in the program are a series of monographs for supplemental reading, a set of Blissymbol stamps to be used in vocabulary design exercises, and a template used in the exercises on drawing Blissymbols.

3) Revised Edition Blissymbol Stamps. This new stampbook was completed in the fall of 1985. In addition to the original 1400 Blissymbol stamps, the revised edition contains two pages of stamps from the new vocabulary items added to the system since 1984. As well, there are three pages of frequently requested phrases and combined symbols, and sentences to facilitate interactive communication. The revised stampbook is available in the 7/8" size stamp.

#### PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

1) Bickell Lecture. A one hour presentation including material for an expanded version is now in its final production stage. This item is scheduled for completion in early 1986. Begun in 1983 with a grant from the Bickell Foundation, the lecture is designed to provide the Blissymbol component in courses in augmentative communication, as they are introduced in universities, colleges and professional inservice training.

2) Palle Alone in the World. This delightful, illustrated children's story book was produced in Denmark in 1983. It is an old Danish story by Jens Sigsgaard translated into Blissymbols by Gösta la Cour. This book is a "first" as the text of the story appears only in Blissymbols. Currently only a Danish translation accompanies the book. BCI consultant, Jinny Storr, has completed an English translation of the text, and we are preparing to print it for inclusion in the book pocket provided for this purpose. This project should be completed by mid 1986.



## NEW SOFTWARE DISTRIBUTION

1) MAP Computer Programs. During 1985, agreements have been signed between BCI and the Microcomputer Applications Program (MAP) of The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre (HMMC) to distribute two computer programs developed by MAP.

- 1) PICMAN, a single input control drawing program;
- 2) Single-Input Control Assessment, used for assessing a disabled person's potential for a single input computer control.

2) Blissymbolics: Bliss Skills. An agreement was signed with Vocational and Rehabilitation Research Institute (VRRI), Calgary Alberta, to distribute the computer program Blissymbolics: Bliss Skills, a drill program of symbols for the Apple computer.

3) Blisspen. This software was completed under a software development grant from the Ontario Ministry of Education. It allows for "symbol" processing with a limited vocabulary of Blissymbols. The software is available free of charge to Schoolboards in Ontario, and is available commercially through BCI.

## NEW MONOGRAPH

Janice Light. BCI signed an agreement with Janice Light, consultant with the Augmentative Communication Service (ACS) of HMMC to publish her thesis "The Communicative Interaction Patterns of Young Nonspeaking Physically Disabled Children and their Primary Caregivers". This is in monograph format.

## COMMUNICATING TOGETHER

Communicating Together completed three years of publication in 1985. Despite positive evaluation from readers, advertisers and professionals in the field, the financial position of the magazine became critical by mid-year. Two plans were implemented in an effort to save the magazine. Firstly, an extensive mailing was done emphasizing the situation we faced. Secondly, an intensive review of the Communicating Together budget was undertaken.

Promotional Mailings were sent to:

- 1) All present subscribers.
- 2) All former subscribers
- 3) All ISAAC members who had not already subscribed.
- 4) Professionals in the field who did not subscribe.

Response from these mailings was very positive and gave us the support to continue publishing if expenses could be controlled.





## Budget Revisions

A new budget was drawn which involved many cost cutting measures.

- 1) It was reluctantly agreed that we could no longer afford the services of our free lance editor, Sarah Swartz, and that BCI staff would have to perform this role. This was a difficult decision to reach, as our editor has given invaluable guidance and professional skill to the magazine.
- 2) Some compromises were necessary in the printing of the magazine. It was decided to use less expensive paper, cut back to twenty-four pages from the existing twenty-eight pages, print only in one colour and reduce the size of the production run, making fewer complimentary copies available.
- 3) The decision to print in one colour necessitated a new design of the Communicating Together logo and magazine layout. This was ably undertaken by Jack Steiner, a freelance designer who has worked with us on several other publications.
- 4) Application is being made to Canada Post for Second Class Mailing priviledges. If granted, this will reduce the mailing cost by two thirds.

These changes are placing an extensive additional burden on BCI personnel. Extra responsibilities for the editing are being undertaken by Shirley McNaughton and I. It is hoped that these measures will succeed in allowing us to continue publishing a meaningful and useful magazine for our readers, without compromising content quality.

Communicating Together has had more than five regular advertisers throughout 1985. We hope to continue to produce a magazine of benefit to them and worthy of their continued association.

## SUN LIFE SUPPORT

Through a generous donation from Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada, we were able to offer our readers the opportunity to direct a subscription of the magazine to a public library in their area. It was gratifying that we received 54 responses to this offer. Our hope is that the magazine will be used as a community resource and that further library subscriptions will be initiated in 1986, and that those libraries subscribing in 1985 will resubscribe in 1986.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Four Workshops on Magazine Production & Distribution were attended by BCI staff.



- 1) Half day course on Magazine Design, sponsored by the Canadian Periodical Publishers Association (CPPA), May 1985, attended by Ann Kennedy
- 2) Two Evening Seminars on Magazine Design sponsored by the Freelance Editors Association of Canada (FEAC), June 1985, attended by Ann Kennedy
- 3) Full day session on Subscription Renewals sponsored by CPPA, attended by Lesley Carter
- 4) Half day seminar on Proofreading sponsored by FEAC, Spring 1985, attended by Ann Kennedy and Lesley Carter.

Other Workshops:

- 1) Full day Lotus Training Program at IBM, attended by Ann Kennedy and Shirley McNaughton.

COMPUTERIZATION OF ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES

In 1985, administration of BCI accounting was transferred from The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre to The Easter Seal Society, Ontario. At this time, The Easter Seal Society provided consultation in selecting and implementing an accounting package which operates on their mainframe computer, while allowing BCI to carry out its accounting and inventory procedures independently. During 1985, the data was entered for accounts payable and general ledger, and this part of the program is now fully operational. The task of entering inventory data was also begun and consultation is continuing with the program developers to have this aspect perform efficiently. The final phase of the total accounting program will be accounts receivable which we plan to implement in 1986. This will give us a fully integrated accounting program, allowing BCI to prepare up-to-date and accurate financial statements and statistics as required by the marketing department and BCI administration. Transition of accounting procedures from the HMMC Accounting Department to BCI taking responsibility, with support from The Easter Seal Society required extensive work by our accounting secretary, Mary Leafe. Her contribution was greatly appreciated. She supervised and was assisted by our shipping clerk who undertook responsibility for data entry of the inventory.

Throughout the year, the cooperation of The Easter Seal Society and in particular Amir Hudani, has been invaluable. It would not have been possible to undertake the implementation of this complex program without the patient and expert help we received from him as he problem solved with us.





#### SUMMARY

1985 has been a demanding year for the marketing department. The restructuring of staff responsibilities and procedures due to budget restrictions has placed many limitations upon our activities. We move to 1986 with a reorganized department, a new perspective for the magazine, new products to promote and new computerized accounting procedures. It will be a challenge.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Kennedy  
Marketing Manager



## Report of the Symbol System Coordinator

Thanks to the support of The Henry White Kinnear Foundation, The Atkinson Foundation and several personal donations, the System Office was able to continue to carry out three major functions within BCI. These included:

- 1) developing the Blissymbol system and vocabulary
- 2) monitoring symbols contained in publications and computer software to ensure that they meet the international standards set by BCI
- 3) responding to symbol requests from symbol users, parents and instructors.

### SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

The System Coordinator made three presentations pertaining to system development in 1985.

### BCI INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATE MEETING

The first was given at the BCI International Affiliate Meeting in The Netherlands in April. During this meeting the Co-ordinator explained her role at BCI, presented a selection of symbols and the Principles of Usage<sup>1</sup> approved by the Symbol Committee in 1984, and chaired a meeting of the International Panel. The representatives of the International Panel present at this meeting asked that system development proceed at a slower pace so that they would have more time to consider proposed symbols before the Co-ordinator presents them to the Symbol Committee for approval. The Co-ordinator agreed to try to increase the sharing of Members' ideas and opinions regarding the system whenever feasible. An additional questionnaire was proposed to facilitate such sharing. A number of Members volunteered to complete preliminary or formative questionnaires in addition to the one or

-----

<sup>1</sup> Principles of Usage which have their origins in Semantography are techniques or devices for expanding the symbol vocabulary. Since the 1982 Agreement with C.K. Bliss, which grants to BCI the exclusive non-revocable license to use Blissymbolics for handicapped persons having communication, language and learning difficulties, BCI has been in a position to encourage those in the field to take advantage of the flexibility inherent in the system to meet user needs. Principles are a means of highlighting this flexibility and are intended to give instructors teaching ideas. In addition BCI encourages users and instructors to submit vocabulary created by means of the Principles to the System Office for consideration for inclusion in the BCI Standard Vocabulary. In this way system development can be influenced by those in the field who are not Members of the International Panel.





two regular questionnaires each year. The results of formative questionnaires will subsequently be circulated to all Panel Members.

Members present appreciated this opportunity to focus upon system development. They anticipate meeting again during the ISAAC conference in Wales in September 1986.

#### NORTH AMERICAN AFFILIATE MEETING

The second presentation was given at the North American Affiliate Meeting held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in May 1985. The System Co-ordinator made a presentation similar to the one given in the Netherlands. In addition she shared some of the ideas expressed by European Panel Members at the International Meeting regarding symbol synonyms.

#### COMITE FORMATION/INFORMATION DE LA COMMUNICATION NON-ORALE DU QUEBEC

The third presentation was given at a meeting of the Quebec Committee on Non-Speech Communication held in Montreal in November 1985. The presentation brought professionals associated with the BCI Quebec Affiliate up-to-date regarding system development. Lecture notes and audio-visual materials used to support this presentation were translated with the help of Marie-Therese Brulon from the MacKay Center, Montreal.

#### COMMUNICATING TOGETHER

In addition to presentations concerning the system, the System Co-ordinator wrote a column, "Symbol Talk", for Communicating Together. This column focussed upon ideas for teaching symbols and current news regarding symbol development.

#### SYMBOL COMMITTEE

The Symbol Committee met in November 1985. At this time 47 symbols and three Principles of Usage were approved, and 10 symbols from the Standard Vocabulary and/or their associated word synonyms were revised. Three symbol synonyms were added to the system. The Symbol Co-ordinator shared ideas expressed by European and North American Panel Members regarding symbol synonyms with the Committee, in preparation for this issue receiving further attention from the Panel in 1986.

The System Office is in the process of preparing these new symbols and Principles of Usage for distribution to Panel Members, BCI Affiliates, and two hundred people on the mailing list who have requested up-dated symbol information. They will be mailed out in May 1986.



## SYSTEM DATA BASE

Considerable time and resources have been spent in planning and beginning work on the Blissymbol Data Base which is intended to create a permanent record to be used as an authoritative source of the BCI Standard Vocabulary and Principles of Usage. All vocabulary items and information pertaining to the system of Blissymbolics used in BCI vocabulary lists, dictionaries and other publications will be drawn from this data base. The data base will include:

- \* the current Standard Vocabulary
- \* Blissymbol usage data
- \* Blissymbol development data
- \* historical data pertaining to the system.

The System Office purchased an IBM PC-XT with a hard disk, two display monitors, modem, printer and supporting software. A university student and computer consultant were hired on a part-time basis to assist in the creation of the data base. At present basic information pertaining to approximately 1600 symbols has been entered into the data base.

## MONITOR PROJECTS

The Symbol Office co-ordinated the monitoring of symbols and/or text appearing in the following publications or computer software in 1986:

BCI Projects and/or Publications:

Bickell Lecture  
Blissbook  
Revised Blissymbol Stamps  
Communicating with Blissymbolics  
Communicating Together  
The Independent Study Program

Projects Originating Outside BCI:

Blissymbol Apron - for sheltered workshop employees in Ottawa, Ontario  
Blissymbol Signs - for Affiliate in Bohemia, NY  
Chime In - a Blissymbol module under development for a reading series published by Doubleday Inc.  
Computer Software - developed by Dr. G.L. Lovegrove, University of Southampton, Southampton, England. This project was monitored by British BCI Affiliates  
Computer Software - developed by S. Beard, Ontario Science Centre, Toronto, Ontario





ENSM Laboratoire d'Automatique, Universite de Nantes, Nantes, France - software designed to teach Blissymbols - project was monitored by British and French Blissymbol Affiliates and Blissymbol Presentors

Hamilton-Wentworth Collective Storybook Project - paste-on Blissymbol strips are under development for seven children's books

New Museum of Contemporary Art - New York, NY - signs and symbol information for children's section of the museum

New Testament - translated into Blissymbols by Paul Theriault

Signs and Symbols, Communication for Mentally Handicapped People - by Philip R. Jones and Ailsa Cregan - Chapter 3, "Signs and Symbols"

Simplicom Communication Board - developed by Centre Francois Charon, Quebec

Textbook on language development by P. Reich - published by Prentice-Hall Inc. Symbols contained in one chapter.

#### SYMBOL REQUESTS

Blissymbols were provided in response to requests in 1985.

1. Letters - Seventy letters requesting newly approved symbols were received, and three letters requesting Blissymbols to be used for specific purposes were received by the Symbol Office.

2. Personal Contact - two requests for specific Blissymbols came from the Spanish and Swiss Affiliates at the International Affiliate Meeting.

The Symbol Office would like to thank the Members of the International Panel and Symbol Committee (Appendix G) for the time and thought they have volunteered in helping to develop the System of Blissymbolics.

Special thanks for thoughtful deliberations with regard to system development goes to the Members of the Symbol Committee: David Dineen, Barbara Hehner, Barbara Kates; to BCI Symbol Consultants, Peter Reich and Jinny Storr and to BCI Board Member, Chairman of the System Development and Institute Program Committee, Dr. Richard Storr.

I wish to recognize also the valuable contribution of BCI monitors (Appendix H) and the System Office Staff:

Jennifer Blair, Assistant to Symbol System Co-ordinator  
Liam Egan, Computer Consultant  
Sheila Mahoney, Data Base Assistant

Respectfully submitted,  
Claudia Wood  
Symbol System Co-ordinator



## Report of the Administrative Co-ordinator

### AFFILIATES

In my role as Administrative Coordinator I have had the responsibility for providing BCI support to the two Affiliate meetings held in 1985. The European Affiliate Meeting was held in Huizen, Holland, April 9-13, 1985. It was planned by Els Koerselman, speech pathologist with the REVALIDATIECENTRUM "DE TRAPPENBERG". It was attended by participants from Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. Agenda items included reports from participants, system considerations, technology, research issues, International Panel meeting and a tour of the centre and visit to the Blissclass. Many worthwhile discussions were held. It was generally agreed that the Blissymbol Meetings held every eighteen months were important to the understanding and awareness of professionals in Europe.

The North American Affiliate Meeting was co-ordinated and hosted by Sheela Stuart, speech pathologist with the Children's Hospital and School, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, May 1-4, 1985. There were 15 participants at the meeting. A good exchange of ideas on system, training, product sales and promotion, research, and ways to maintain links were discussed. Several working committees were formed and the results of the activities of these committees will be discussed at the 1986 North American Affiliate Meeting in Orlando, Florida, May 4-7, 1986.

Resulting from a recommendation made at the European meeting, each Affiliate has been asked to supply the name of a technical liaison with the hope that the sharing of technical information will be made easier. BCI has undertaken to provide the names of technical liaisons to all Affiliates.

In the fall of 1985, a letter was sent to each North American Affiliate and Senior Presentor informing them of the decision to discontinue BCI's training of new Senior Presentors. The number of Elementary Workshops in North America does not require a growing pool of presentors. Senior Presentors were asked to consider one of two options: remaining active as a Presentor and becoming a Training Associate or retaining their BCI connections through becoming an Affiliate. The roles of the Training Associate and Affiliate are outlined in Appendix I.

### AGREEMENTS

In 1985, the Blissymbolics Communication Institute signed Agreements with fifteen individuals or organizations. They are listed in Appendix J.





## FUNDING

The Blissymbolics Communication Institute recognizes with appreciation the continuing support and contribution of The Easter Seal Society, Ontario to the work of the Institute. As well, funding from other sources, including Service Clubs, corporations and individuals enabled the BCI to continue its work in helping nonspeaking people. Through the very capable leadership of David Woods and the efforts of Board Members and Patrons, we were able to reach our corporate donations goal of \$40,000.

The following donors contributed to this success:

Bank of Montreal (Our People Fund)  
Bank of Nova Scotia  
Barbecon  
Bell Canada  
Canada Life  
Canada Packers  
Canada Trust  
Canadian A.S.E. Ltd.  
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce  
Clarkson Gordon  
Confederation Life  
Consumers Gas  
Digital Equipment  
Dominion Securities  
Edwards Foundation  
Imasco  
Manulife  
McDonald's  
McLeod Young Weir  
Molsons  
National Victoria & Grey Trust  
Noranda  
PCL Industries  
Rio Algom  
Royal Bank of Canada  
Southam  
Sun Life  
Toronto Dominion Bank  
Toronto Star  
Warner Lambert  
Wood Gundy  
Individual Donors

In addition, IBM donated an IBM-XT personal computer and Xerox Corporation donated a Xerox 1025 copier to BCI in 1985. These items provide valuable year-long assistance to our staff in the day-to-day functioning of our organization.



The financial support of two service clubs has provided BCI with much needed help. The Toronto Kiwanis Club donated funds toward the establishment of our new Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Education (AACE) Resource Centre. The Pilot Clubs of Ontario directed funding toward Communicating Together. Both these clubs have maintained strong support to BCI over the years.

We are extremely grateful for the interest and support of these companies, Foundations, Service Clubs and individuals.

As Chair of the Finance Committee since 1981, David Woods gave strong leadership and guidance. We will miss him and will always remember his unstinting efforts on behalf of the Institute.

#### CONFER

Interest in the computer teleconferencing system, CONFER, which is administered by BCI, continues to grow and expand. At the end of 1985, there were 75 participants from Canada, the U.S., England, Ireland and Sweden in the general conference, International Project on Communication: Augmentative Communication. Participants were able discuss issues, problem-solve and share information relating to the field of augmentative communication.

The second CONFER conference for the Executive Committee of ISAAC proved very effective throughout 1985 in facilitating the activities of this young organization.

In the fall of 1985, the administration of CONFER was undertaken by John Dowling within his training program at the March of Dimes Microcomputer Applications Training Program. Jim Gerrond, another trainee, has also been involved in work relating to CONFER, as well as duties relating to library entries and general enquiry correspondence.

Serving on the Advisory and Selection Committees of the Microcomputer Applications Training Program of the Ontario March of Dimes has been a satisfying personal experience. The involvement of trainees in the Blissymbolics Communication Institute is beneficial to both the young adults involved and to our organization. I look forward to supporting the further vocational training programs of other trainees in 1986.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katherine Seybold  
Administrative Coordinator





TRAINING STATISTICS - 1985

ELEMENTARY TRAINING WORKSHOPS

LOCATION	DATES	# OF PARTICIPANTS	# COMPLETING EXAM SUCCESSFULLY
Brisbane Australia	June 8-10	29	26
Quebec	Dec. 3-6	33	31
British Columbia	July 11-14	31	2
Hamilton	April 3 to June 4	20	20
New York	September	9	9
Orlando	March 21-23 Nov. 21-23	10 9	9 1
Toronto	March 5-7	22	19
Independent Study Program		<u>126**</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTALS		289	120

\*\* Distribution began in November.

ONE DAY WORKSHOPS

LOCATION	DATES	ONE DAY WORKSHOP	# OF PARTICIPANTS
Hamilton	May 11	Pre-School Children	58
Toronto	March 8	Hosted by BCI-	14
		Instructed by ACS	
	July 8	Current Issues in	
		Augmentative Communication	19
	July 9	Accessing & Peripheral Devices	24
		for Apple II and/or IIe	
	July 10	Learning through Blissymbolics	24
	July 11	Blissymbols for the	25
		Mentally Retarded	
	Nov. 11	Positive Self-Image and the	18
		Nonspeaking Student	
	Nov. 12	Blissymbolics and Reading	22
	Nov. 13	Practicum to Independent	17
		Study	

TOTALS

221



### General Enquiries For Information

The total number of enquiries processed by BCI in 1985 was 345, an average of 28.75 per month. The breakdown is as follows:

JANUARY 1, 1985 TO DECEMBER 31, 1985

#### CANADA

Alberta	7	Nova Scotia	5
British Columbia	10	Ontario	130
Manitoba	4	Prince Edward Island	2
New Brunswick	10	Quebec	32
Newfoundland	4	Saskatchewan	1

**TOTAL: 205**

#### U.S.A.

Alabama	1	New Hampshire	2
Arizona	2	New Jersey	8
California	12	New York	15
Colorado	3	North Carolina	3
Delaware	1	North Dakota	1
Florida	3	Ohio	5
Indiana	1	Pennsylvania	4
Iowa	2	South Carolina	2
Kentucky	1	South Dakota	1
Louisiana	5	Tennessee	1
Maryland	2	Texas	5
Massachusetts	6	Utah	1
Michigan	3	Vermont	1
Minnesota	6	West Virginia	3
Missouri	2	Wisconsin	2
Montana	2		

**TOTAL: 106**

#### INTERNATIONAL

Argentina	1	New Zealand	3
Australia	5	Peru	1
Austria	2	Puerto Rico	1
Brazil	1	Saudia Arabia	1
Chile	2	Scotland	1
Costa Rica	1	South Africa	1
Denmark	1	Spain	2
England	1	Switzerland	1
France	1	Venezuala	1
Greece	1	West Germany	1
Guatemala	1	Yugoslavia	1
Holland	1		
India	1		
Ireland	1		

**TOTAL: 34**





## APPENDIX A

### Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Education

#### WHAT IS AACE?

AACE is a program administered by the Blissymbolics Communication Institute with financial support from the Easter Seal Society, Ontario.

AACE provides information about augmentative and alternative communication in the form of demonstration materials, training seminars, consultation and a reference library located at the AACE Resource Centre, Roywood Elementary School, 11 Roywood Drive, North York. The Resource Centre is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Toronto.

#### WHO IS AACE FOR?

AACE staff specializes in providing information and in problem solving with educators, parents, agency representatives and the general public. It is for all persons who have a supportive interest in the education of nonspeaking students.

#### WHAT KIND OF TRAINING IS PROVIDED THROUGH AACE?

Seminars designed to provide information on the broad aspects of augmentative communication, with discussion on specific topics of interest to educators and parents are presented regularly by the Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Education staff and invited speakers.

#### HOW FAR DO AACE SERVICES EXTEND?

Requests for information and training are honoured throughout Ontario.

#### HOW CAN AACE SERVICES BE USED?

Visits to the AACE Resource Centre can be arranged and questions and requests can be answered by phone or by mail. Individual consultation with AACE staff is available by appointment.



APPENDIX B

CHARLES K. BLISS

1897 - 1985

In Sydney Australia, in his 88th year,  
Charles K. Bliss  
passed away on July 13, 1985.

His contribution  
to the field of augmentative communication  
will always be valued by those who use, teach and develop  
Blissymbols.

His original work  
provided the foundation  
upon which we all can build.

Those of us who knew him will long remember  
his creative genius,  
his tireless energy,  
his total dedication  
to Semantography-Blissymbolics.





## Reflections

### Charles the human being; his last weeks; the future

As Charles leaves us for the Great Green Room where performers go after the show, his friends and co-workers are left with a great responsibility. As he intended, Charles died a pauper having progressively given such assets as came his way to the Semantography Trust Fund established under the will of his beloved Claire for the purpose of propagating the Blissymbols concept.

Another great inventor once said that mankind's great achievements are 10% inspiration and 90% perspiration. In the case of Blissymbolics, they are probably about the right proportions; but to that should be added another 50% for frustration.

While reflecting on the limited use of Blissymbols in Australia, we must acknowledge a debt to Charles' Canadian friends for finding an application for his symbols. Without them and their obviously professional approach, it is very likely Charles' work would have remained in obscurity and his final years would have been both shorter, sadder and less productive.

It has been said that the Lord must have liked poor people because he made so many of them. The same can be said of Charles Bliss when it came to fighting - it kept him alive even if it was hard on the people who recognised his genius in their own way and wanted to help.

Charles has been called a "secular saint" and I believe this to be an apt description. I say that not because Charles could do no wrong for, as his executor with access to the files of a person going deaf and with a penchant for writing everything down, I know otherwise. Nor do I say it just because his work has helped crippled children. I say it because whatever Charles' failings were, he had a special ability to bring out the best in others.

In the brief time I have been Charles' executor, it has been a rare privilege to be the recipient of much kindness, co-operation and understanding from unexpected quarters, from people who would rather not be named and in some cases from people whom Charles gave the hardest time. Only Charles'

immediate co-workers can know of the extent to which he bullied and badgered some of these people. Yet it is obvious to me they were doing not only their best but what may well prove to be the best for Blissymbolics itself.

Some readers may be interested to learn of Charles' last days. A fortnight before his admission to hospital, he invited my family and me to lunch. When we met, I saw as I had on several previous occasions, most noticeably since completion of the printing of the Blissymbols Picture Book, that he was slowing down; his deafness seemed worse. But remarkably, as soon as we gathered around him and he had an audience again, he livened up and started to perform, singing and joking. He ate well and kept the conversation running all the time.

Unfortunately for much of the fortnight Charles was in hospital he was unable to recognise visitors, although there were moments in the first week when his orders to his office assistants, Pinky and Anne flowed unabated.

What next? Under the terms of an agreement with the BCI in 1982, Charles granted the BCI an exclusive, perpetual licence (excluding Australia) to disseminate information about Blissymbols for persons having learning difficulties. Within Australia, the same licence is non-exclusive.

Some of Charles' more outspoken Australian friends will no doubt say he was forced to part with the right to deal with his symbols in their most appropriate application because his work continued to remain unrecognised here for so long. Another possible interpretation is that Charles the inventor was not destined to be the propagator.

Clearly, our interests co-incide so the trustees have made it one of our earliest priorities to make known to the BCI our hope that we can work co-operatively rather than competitively.

Speaking for myself, I have been lucky enough to receive a copy of some of the material distributed by the BCI and, as a layman, I am particularly impressed by the care, dedication and expertise which are evident in their production. We look forward to a long, happy and productive association with all the many friends Charles made and Blissymbols' realisation of its full potential.

Richard Ure

## Explanations and tributes

Because of Charles' wishes concerning the disposal of his ashes and the size of the task of coming to understand the present scope of his work and contacts, I have delayed a widespread notification of his death until the publication of this newsletter.

I hope Charles' friends will not be offended by this delay or if any of them do not receive a personally addressed copy of this newsletter. The address list was compiled from the substantial files in the "Paper Shop" in the garage at the rear of 2 Vicar Street, hence the inevitability of omissions. My thanks to the BCI for its announcement in issue COMMUNICATING TOGETHER.

Included amongst the tributes received:

*From the BCI*

"His contribution to the field of augmentative communication will always

be valued by those who use, teach and develop Blissymbols. His original work provided the foundation upon which we all can build.

Those of us who knew him will long remember his creative genius, his tireless energy, his total dedication to Semantography Blissymbolics."

*From Mr Brian Stride*

"My wife and I join you and all of Charles' many helpers and friends in mourning the death of this great man."

*From Mr Art Tobin*

"I am sure Charlie would not be offended in any way because I had a Mass offered for the repose of his lovable soul."

*From the NSW Director General of Education (unaware of Charles' death)*

"I congratulate you on your work and wish you every success with it."



## APPENDIX D

### BLISSBOOK

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS: S. McNaughton, Executive Director, BCI  
P. Parnes, Director, ACS

CENTRES: Blissymbolics Communication Institute  
350 Rumsey Road  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4G 1R8

Augmentative Communication Service  
The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre  
350 Rumsey Road  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4G 1R8

FUNDING: Ontario Ministry of Education  
February 1, 1985 - October 31, 1986

Blissbook, a software program for the ICON computer, is a creative, interactive, student-directed program in which the student uses the software learning environment to create his/her own reading program. Blissbook is designed specifically to provide an introduction to the reading of words for the student who uses Blissymbolics as his/her communication medium. It is intended to be one part of the student's total reading program.

Within this language - experience program, the student progresses through the steps of writing a Blissymbol story, reading and re-reading the text while exchanging symbols for corresponding English words, and completing a variety of activities that test his/her own transition from Blissymbolics to traditional orthography.

Blissbook provides a variety of functions (e.g. insert, delete, replace symbol, gloss on/off, scan time) which enable the student to edit his/her Blissymbol stories and to control the screen environment. A special function, "Transform", allows the student to convert the Blissymbol gloss (word for symbol translation) to a close approximation of standard English syntax. Through the Utilities section, the instructor, along with the student, may set-up various program parameters according to the student's individual needs.



APPENDIX E

Blissymbolics Communication Institute

Board of Directors

Mr. George A. Wilson  
Chairman

Mr. J.C. Lemire  
Secretary

Mr. Paul Adams

Mr. Louis Lazonick

Mr. John MacDonald

Mr. Garth McNaughton

Mrs. Angie Reynolds

Ms. Colleen Spring

Dr. Richard Storr

Patrons

Mr. D. Beatty

Mr. J.D. Gibson

Mr. C. Graham

Mr. E.H. Heeney

Mr. P.T. Johnson

Mr. G.A. Lightbound

Mr. A.R.A. Scace

Hon. Pauline McGibbon

Mr. C.G. Watson





APPENDIX F

David Woods  
BCI Board Member, 1981 - 1985

All of us at BCI were greatly saddened  
by the death of David Woods,  
November 28th, 1985.  
He brought much strength to BCI,  
but above all he was a treasured friend.

In his five years as member of our Board of Directors,  
David organized and served as Chair, BCI Finance Committee,  
giving strong leadership to our funding program.  
He chaired, on behalf of our Board Chairman,  
many Board Meetings and our 1985 Annual Meeting.  
David was, first and foremost, a problem solver,  
applying his broad experience in business and with organizations  
to the many critical issues faced by BCI.  
He was always positive and confident that,  
with well-directed effort  
and with the help of knowledgeable people,  
we would find solutions.  
And most often, we did.

We will miss his lively spirit,  
his determination,  
his never-ceasing interest, support and understanding.

BCI staff and Board of Directors  
will always remember with affection,  
their association with David Woods.



APPENDIX G

International Panel and Symbol Committee

Pilar Such Acin, Spain  
Bruce Baker, U.S.A.  
Patricia Bailey, Great Britian  
Loretta Biasutti, Canada  
Sara C. Brothers, U.S.A.  
Robyn Calloway, Australia  
Britt Carlsson, Sweden  
Peter L. Clarke, Canada  
Vanessa de Schoene, Switzerland  
Sandra Decker, U.S.A.  
Shelley Deegan, Canada  
Sandra Dodgson, Canada  
Doris J. Farenkopf, U.S.A.  
Thomas Franzkowiak, Germany  
Pina Gennaro, Italy  
Lise Guenet, Canada  
Nadia Browning Gill, Brazil  
Jane Green, Canada  
Ruth Harrington, Canada  
Barbara Hehner, Canada  
Annemie Heyndericks Van Roy, Belgium  
John James, Great Britian  
Margareta Jennische, Sweden  
Ilona Kassai, Hungary  
Els Koerselman, Netherlands  
Gosta la Cour, Denmark  
Carolyn Lester, Canada  
Kerstin Lorstrom, Sweden  
Jody Loeth, U.S.A.  
Judith Tanner Loughran, U.S.A.  
Barbara Ihle McGarry, U.S.A.  
Shirley McNaughton, Canada  
Fran Mittendorff, Canada  
Lynnette Norris, Canada  
Sandra Osborne, Canada  
Louise Pare, Canada  
Peter Reich, Canada  
Aurelia Rivarola, Italy  
Harald Stub, Norway  
Ann Colquhoun Sutton, Canada  
Madhavi Tambay, India  
Rosario Toscano, Portugal  
Anne Warrick, Canada  
Florence Wertz, U.S.A.  
Judy Seligman-Wine, Israel  
Sandra Wrightman, Canada





APPENDIX H

BCI Monitors

Canada

Loretta Biasutti  
Shelly Deegan  
Jane Green  
Ruth Harrington  
Barbara Hehner  
Barbara Kates  
Barbara Rush  
Jinny Storr  
Anne Warrick - Monitor Co-ordinator, Canada (outside projects)

Overseas

Patricia Bailey  
Caroline Bockweg  
Britt Carlsson  
Hilary Homberger  
Els Koerselman  
Kerstin Lorstrom  
Alison MacDonald  
Judy Seligman-Wine



APPENDIX I

Responsibilities  
Training Associate/Affiliate

1. To adhere to the design, structure, and combination of Blissymbols as standardized from time to time by BCI. The sub-licensee shall use as a standard the vocabulary & representations contained in Blissymbols for Use or other material or publications as are designated by BCI from time to time.
2. To support the application and teaching of Blissymbols in ways that maintain the integrity and semantic base of the system.
3. To support a unified Blissymbolics system and vocabulary as approved of by BCI, by submitting symbols intended for any form of public distribution - in publications and teaching materials such as printed displays or stamps, on film or tape, etc. - for inspection and approval by BCI or an approved BCI monitor.
4. To share the BCI's responsibility of ensuring that the following statement is affixed on all printed publications for which the sub-licensee assumes responsibility. In the publication of others, containing Blissymbols, the sub-licensee shall use its best efforts to have the same notice affixed.

**Blissymbolics used herein derived from the symbols  
described in the work, Semantography, original copyright  
© C.K. Bliss 1949.**

**BLISSYMBOLICS COMMUNICATION INSTITUTE  
Exclusive licensee, 1982.**

5. To support BCI approved training formats.
6. To provide information on current Blissymbol-related communication, training and teaching materials to people within the sub-licensee's geographical area.
7. To attend, as resources permit, meetings of Affiliates and Training Associates.
8. To nominate a knowledgeable person to serve as a representative of the sub-licensee's area, on the BCI International Panel on Standards for Blissymbolics.
9. To maintain an annual subscription to Communicating Together.



10. To pay an annual fee of \$15.00.

11. To provide to BCI, by March 31, a short description of the sub-licensee's activities for the previous year for inclusion in the BCI Annual Report.

12. To remain current through reading and conferences with regard to both Blissymbolics and the broad field of augmentative communication.

\*12. To attend at least one Blissymbol-related presentation each year.

\*13. To indicate, by completing Schedule A of the annual Agreement, the manner in which the sub-licensee is remaining current professionally with regard to both Blissymbolics, and the broad field of augmentative communication.

\* Training Associates only.





## APPENDIX J

### Agreements

Caroline Ramsey Musselwhite of Asheville, NC, to distribute her work, SONGBOOK.

Penny Parnes, of the Augmentative Communication Service of The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre, to distribute the work, Computer Applications: A Multidisciplinary Approach.

The Hugh MacMillan Medical Centre, to distribute two computer software programs developed by the HMMC Rehab Engineering Department, Pic-Man and Single Input Control Assessment.

Janice Light, to publish and distribute her thesis, The Communicative Interaction Patterns of Young Nonspeaking Physically Disabled Children and their Primary Caregivers.

The New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York, for the use of Blissymbols in signs for a children's display.

Doubleday of Canada Ltd., of Toronto, for the production of a Blissymbol module in a reading series, Chime In.

Peter Reich of the University of Toronto, for the use of Blissymbols in a textbook on language development.

Vocational Rehabilitation Research Institute of Calgary, Alberta, for the use of Blissymbols in a computer program, Blissymbolics: Bliss Skills.

Jean-Claude Gabus of Neuchatel, Switzerland, for the use of Blissymbols on an overlay for HECTOR, an electronic aid with speech synthesis in French, German and Italian.

Associazione Incremento comunicazione Alternativa, Milan, Italy, a publishing agreement for an Italian version of Blissymbols for Use.

LARES Coop of Budapest, Hungary, to publish and distribute a Hungarian version of Blissymbols for Use.

Malcolm Hind of Edgehill College of Higher Education, Ormskirk, Lancs., England for the use of Blissymbols in a computer program, SYNREL.

Tjanstemannens Bildningsverksamhet, Stockholm, Sweden, to publish a Blissymbol Study and Training Manual in the Swedish language.

Harcourt, Brace Javnovich, Publishers in Orlando, Florida for the use of Blissymbols in an elementary reading text.

The Catholic School Board of Montreal for the use of Blissymbols in a sign on buses to be used to transport disabled children.





